

Application No.: 09/912,490

Docket No.: 22051-00002-US1

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend paragraphs 33, 53, 54, 55 and 57 as follows:

[0033] If the user is not a member, the user will be shown (at 19) to the non-member functions and content 12. If the user is already a member, the user will be shown (at 8) to the member functions and content 42 [14]. Both members and non-members will have access to the common functions and content 14. Users of non-PC devices may be presented with limited functions and content based on the particular interactive and display capabilities of their access method. As one possible example, cell phone users may only be able to check winning numbers and place new orders, and may not be able to register through that device. The following is a discussion of the functions and content available to members and non-members.

[0053] When a successful ticket purchase is made, there will be three potential methods for connecting to the state lottery agency. These will be explained in more detail with regards to FIGS. 3, 4 and 5, but in summary, there will be either a direct electronic connection 84 to the state lottery system using a 'lottery terminal emulator server', or a direct electronic connection 85 to the state lottery system over a wide area network/dedicated connection or a connection established through use of a standard state lottery terminal, and U-PickIt.com staff members 86.

[0054] There are three methods for connecting to the state lottery system. Referring now to FIG. 3, there is shown a first connection method, in schematic flow diagram form as an overall depiction of a direct connection from the U-PickIt.com transaction server 80 to the state lottery system 82 [86].

[0055] The first connection method is a direct connection to the state lottery system 82 by use of a separate server system 90 that is programmed to emulate a standard state lottery sales terminal. The emulator server system receives input data from transaction server 80 through a standard firewall 88. This machine will connect to the state lottery system's fulfillment server in the same manner as the existing lottery terminal, and will use existing lottery communication protocols. Current lottery transmission protocols include transmission over a regular, non-

Application No.: 09/912,490

Docket No.: 22051-00002-US1

dedicated (on-demand) phone line 91 and standard RJ 11 phone jack 94. Modems 93 and 96 provide data connections between the server 90 and the state lottery system 82. Successful ticket purchases will be temporarily stored (92) on this separate server and then transmitted to the state lottery system 82. The state lottery system will respond to this transmission with confirmation which will then be relayed to the end-user, back through the transaction server 80, firewall 88, and web server system 74 [84], and then back to the user in a secure encrypted form. In this instance, actual lottery tickets are not printed, and the user's receipt is needed to redeem for an actual ticket, which will be printed upon demand, or to verify purchase in order to claim any awards. It is noted that this method of communicating with the state lottery system requires full participation from the state lottery system and the state lottery system's vendor to accomplish the standard lottery terminal emulation.

[0057] Successful ticket purchases will be temporarily stored (92) on this separate server and also instantly transmitted to the state lottery system 82. The state lottery system will respond to this transmission with confirmation which will then be relayed to the end-user, back through the transaction server 80, firewall 88, and web server system 74 [85], and then back to the user in a secure encrypted form. In this instance, actual lottery tickets are not printed, and the user's receipt is needed to redeem for an actual ticket, which will be printed upon demand, or to verify purchase to claim awards. It is noted that this method of communicating with the state lottery system requires full participation from the state lottery system and the state lottery system's vendor to accomplish the direct electronic connection.